



## Supreme Court of Appeals State of West Virginia

# News

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### Rory Perry takes federal job; Supreme Court names new Clerk of Court

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CHARLESTON, W.Va. – Supreme Court Clerk Rory Perry II has accepted a job as the Clerk of Court for the United States District Court for the Southern District of West Virginia, and the Supreme Court has appointed Deputy Clerk Eydie Gaiser to the position of Clerk of Court.

Perry will be in charge of clerk's offices at U.S. District Courts in Charleston, Huntington, Beckley and Bluefield.

Perry's last day at the Supreme Court will be Oct. 31. Gaiser will take over Nov. 1 and will become the fifteenth person to serve as Clerk of the Supreme Court of Appeals since West Virginia was founded in 1863.

"It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as Clerk over the past seventeen years, and I'm delighted to know that the Court will be in good hands with Eydie serving as Clerk," Perry said.

Chief Justice Allen H. Loughry II said, "While Rory's departure is a great loss for the state's judiciary, my fellow Justices and I sincerely wish him all the best as he begins this new chapter in his distinguished legal career.

"Rory has not only been a friend to our entire Court family, but through his leadership, our Clerk's Office has operated smoothly and efficiently for many years. Rory will undoubtedly serve the federal court with the same integrity and work ethic that he has provided to this Court. I will miss him both personally and professionally," Chief Justice Loughry said.

A native of Huntington, Perry is a graduate of Marshall University and the West Virginia University College of Law. He has been the Supreme Court Clerk since July 2000. He previously was Deputy Clerk and was an assistant attorney general. He was named a Bar Foundation Fellow in 2013.

Gaiser was born in Pittsburgh, Pa., and moved to West Virginia, where she attended high school at Mount de Chantal Visitation Academy in Wheeling and Wheeling Jesuit University. She then attended Duquesne University School of Law in Pittsburgh.

Gaiser worked in private practice from 1988 through 1999, when she took a job at the Florida Supreme Court Office of State Court Administration in judicial education. She returned to West Virginia to become Deputy Supreme Court Clerk in August 2003.

Chief Justice Loughry said, “Eydie Gaiser has served the Court for many years as Deputy Court Clerk, working side by side with Rory. We are fortunate that she is able to bring forward that experience as she assumes the role of Clerk of Court. I am confident that the transition will be seamless.”

Gaiser said, “I am truly humbled and honored that the Supreme Court of Appeals has appointed me to this position. I am extremely proud of my staff in the Clerk’s Office and the work we do.”

As Clerk, Perry has been very active in the West Virginia Youth in Government Program, the West Virginia Civics Literacy Council, and he and Gaiser are active in the National Conference of Appellate Court Clerks (NCACC), made up of clerks in state and federal appellate courts across the country, including the Supreme Court of the United States. Perry and Gaiser both have served on NCACC committees, on the executive committee, and as program chairpersons for separate annual education meetings.

Perry served as President of the NCACC in 2012-2013, President-Elect in 2011-2012, Vice-President in 2010-2011, and implemented electronic registration for NCACC annual conferences. He also is the 2017 recipient of the group’s J.O. Sentell Award, which recognizes distinguished service by a member who contributes in a substantial way to the objectives of the Conference. “NCACC owes the existence and maintenance of the NCACC website to Rory and his court. This has been a major contribution to the organization’s operations,” the award says.

Since Perry and Gaiser have worked together, the Supreme Court adopted the Revised Rules of Appellate Procedure in 2010 and the Clerk’s Office was remodeled so the physical work space and processes could be modernized.

West Virginia was one of the first six Supreme Courts to provide live internet streaming of Supreme Court arguments, beginning in 2001. In 2016 the Court began working with West Virginia Public Broadcasting to provide live broadcasts of oral arguments on the West Virginia Channel and YouTube.